

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: Dave Fifield <fifield@lan.nsc.com>  
Subject: [5627] Advice Needed!  
Message-ID: <31475A82.36DA@lan.nsc.com>

OK, I'm in trouble, and I need help!

I just bought a (QRP) FT-530 dual band HT from HRO yesterday (they're blowing them out at \$299) and I need to break it gently to my wife, especially since I just spent all my "radio" money at the Foothills flea market last weekend.

Any of you know of an approach that results in minimum all round stress/strife?

Dave Fifield

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| LAN Applications Manager      | KE6ZBZ      |  
| National Semiconductor Corp   | QRP-L #92   |  
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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: "Mark S. Adams" <MSADAMS@acsu.buffalo.edu>  
Subject: [5625] Antenna Launching  
Message-ID: <31475D1A.12E4@ACSU.BUFFALO.EDU>

Hi Gang,

I saw the post on antenna launching and Antenna West. How timely as I just today accessed their Radioadventure webpage!

You can even read an online article on antenna launching from the latest issue of their newsletter. Their address is:

<http://www.far.net/radioadventure/>

Enjoy,  
Mark N2VPK

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: "Glenn E. Scott" <SCOTTY@facade.adm.clarkson.edu>  
Subject: [5623] Best Kit ??????  
Message-ID: <74BA776CFA@FACADE.ADM.CLARKSON.EDU>

Well here I am again. I never have too much input but I sure do have alot of questions. Here is another question that ought to burn the barn down....

"If you were going to buy a Qrp Trans. Kit for camping, which kit would you buy and for what band ????"

I would like something that will be enjoyable to use, not like the DC receiver kit that I put together one time. That thing drove me crazy trying to figure out which qso I was in.

I realize that it is user preference but I would like some ideas from the kit builders out there. So all response are welcome.

I will thank everyone for there responses now cause I know I am going to get input.

Tnx

Glenn

n2ulu

QRP-L # 403

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996

From: David Adams <dave@flowserver.stem.com>

Subject: [5631] Cascade Kit for sale

Message-ID: <9603132255.AA03329@flowserver.stem.com>

Greetings! Well, work did it to me again. They bumped the France trip up to next monday, so I need to raise some quick cash. I have for sale:

An unbuilt Cascade kit (from the last lot of 50) for sale. I also have a set of matched crystals for the 40/17m conversion, if interested. Best offer.

Heathkit HW-9. Works well, a paint job would not hurt. No manual. Best offer.

Kenwood TR-2400 2m HT. Old but works well (well...dtmf tones are flakey). Digital and synthesized. Includes leather case, base stand spare battery pack, manual and odds/ends...

That would be it....thanks for your consideration.

dave

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David J Adams  
dave@flowserver.stem.com  
(415) 813-5028

N9UXU QRP-L #83  
NorCal QRP #1442  
Flow Cytometry Specialist

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: "John Kirk, VE6XT" <jakirk@freenet.calgary.ab.ca>  
Subject: [5633] launching antennae  
Message-ID: <Pine.A32.3.91.960313170747.36834A-100000@srv1.freenet.calgary.ab.ca>

Slingshots and bows may be ok for those jaunts into the country, but be careful if you choose to do the same in the city. I damn near took out a city bus with my bow and arrow one time...  
And you thought you had a lot of explaining to do to get new radios into the house!!!  
John

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: frank@net.com (Frank Gurnee)  
Subject: [5619] parts caddy  
Message-ID: <9603131736.AA29890@trappist.net.com>

I haven't built much stuff but found on my first project (the Cascade) that I didn't have a good method of hanging on to the myriad parts after I sorted them. I have now arrived at an effective and asthetically pleasing solution for project number two: floral foam.

This is the stuff in the base of a flower arrangement and is available in a brick size chunk at any craft store, or, for a higher price, at any florist. I cut it laterally in 1 inch cross sections to have three thin brick size pieces. It is very soft but will easily hold resistors, capacitors, etc., vertically for easy pickins and I can move the entire set around easily.

And, with all the capacitors for the Cascade neatly sorted and stuffed in the floral foam, it is an artistic display that resembles an insect collection!

Frank  
K06MM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: BStaff@bangate.compaq.com  
Subject: [5624] Please unsubscribe

Message-ID: <vines.R816+kpmFlA@bangate.compaq.com>

I followed the directions for unsubscribing, but was unsuccessful. Please remove me from the mailing list.

Thanks,

Brad  
AA8IF/5

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: Brien Pepperdine <pepperb@gov.on.ca>  
Subject: [5641] Pls list yer qth, KN  
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.90.960313131532.28408A-100000@govonca2.gov.on.ca>

Given the nature of a qrp qso point to point, it would be very much more meaningful if people could try to remember to list their qth along with those of the magnificent contacts they make.

viz. "last nite I did Topeka on 750mw". Hmmm, I am impressed if the Topeka station was 1750 miles away, not so if Topeka was worked from a lot closer. Related to 750 mw. Of course ANY station worked from ANY distance is worth it, its just for us to get a mental picture of qrp is doing when and on what band.

Time, qth, band, etc. are useful. If one does the mental map of the U.S / Canada then relative qth is fine, I don't think we really require everyone consult their circle map from their qth (though I in fact did take a protractor and do a job on a Rand McNally road map so I knew approx. where major cities and the states are distance wise from where I live which is Toronto.

Of course, when the US calls reflected approx. geographic locations, this was not so necessary, but now I think a lot of us would really appreciate knowing the achievements.

72 de  
VE3VAW  
Toronto

pepperb@gov.on.ca

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: Brad Mugleston <bmug@gw1.com>  
Subject: [5612] Recap on QSO's  
Message-ID: <199603131501.AA07078@gp-ipc54.gw1.com>

Earlier this week I posted that I finally made my first contact(s) and had some questions.  
Other than the few answers sent to this net I got a boat load of them direct and I thought I would thank everyone for there congrats & answers. I also thought I would recap for anyone who is just watching.

First QSO stands for => Quasi Stellar Object, now we all know.

Sweaty plams are required for a good contact - helps the key in case its dirty.

The first things exchanged should be RST, QTH and Name. This is nice to know.  
Now I have a pick-up-line that works and will get the ball rolling.

Long summer days lead to a great evening working QPR on 40M.

Using CAPITAL LETTERS on the net is equilivant to SHOUTING.

You should call CQ three times and send your call three times (3 X 3) and at the speed you wish to be called back at. Those of you sending CQ twelve times with one Call at high speed should now know why no one answers you back - we recognize the CQ but dont know your call.

If you dont copy all of the call try:  
QRZ? de KBØROL K {OR}  
WB7? de KBØROL K {OR}  
QRZ WB7? de KBØROL {OR}  
QRZ? pse de KBØROL {OR IF CONDITIONS ARE BAD}  
WB7? WB7? de KBØROL KBØROL K

and if you want them to slow down QRS or QRS 5 should do it.

Derek and I hang out on 7.110, 7.120 and 7.145 all +- between 125 and 130 seems to have the most QRN.

Last but not least - Why am I doing QRP as a beginner, well it is cheeper (difficult to justify \$500 - \$1000 to buy a radio your not licensed for) and I really enjoy the

challenge,

I mean if I really wanted to talk to some one I would pick up the phone - dialing random

numbers would probably give me a better chance of talking to someone I dont know than sending

CQ CQ CQ de KBØROL KBØROL KBØROL K, even with 1,500 watts going into the perfect antenna

system. BTW Derek, my son, is having so much fun I doubt he'll ever run over 10W, even if its available.

Thanks for all the help,

de kbØrol qth aurora aurora, co co k

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996

From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com

Subject: [5616] VXOs, Litz wire and pipe dreams

Message-ID: <960313113206.23e5a938@carib.vf.mmc.com>

Folks,

There has been some discussion lately about a VXO article appearing in the latest 73 magazine. Unfortunately I've deleted the messages , but I want o comment on what I remember of them.

I've done some work with VXOs as you may remember from last year, when I told of a VXO contest at the NEQRP meeting. Using some ideas from Ha-Jo Brandt, DJ1??, it was easy to obtain a tuning range of about 15 kHz with a 3.579 MHz color burst crystal. Wider swings were possible, but the circuit was no longer under control of the crystal. Simply put, it was a VF0.

Now the 73 article extolls the virtues of honeycomb coils and Litz wire to extend the tuning range. I agree with the honeycomb coils, since they give inductors with low distributed capacitance which is what Ha-Jo found he needed. But the use of Litz wire, I suspect has no meaning.

I don't mean to be too critical of the magazine article's author, but I suspect that his results were the result of what I'll politely call "empirical design" (That means you just fiddle around with something until you get it to work). as opposed to a thourough desing effort. I agree with Kent Torrell when he says that you really need to mesure the crystal parameters and model the circuit to say with certainty what's happening. Don't get me wrong, we all eventually get to the empirical optimization stage, but usually with a

sound starting position.

On the other hand, I could be wrong. If someone can show me a reproducible vx0 with the kind of tuning range mentioned that retains crystal stability, I'll be a beleiver. However I suspect that the article is another typical of 73 these days that are more the result of strainght empiricism and hope, than careful experimentation and measurement.

Maybe I'll try conversing with the author, and see what the's all about. No flames intended, I'm just trying to put on my engineer's hat (No, not the railroad kind!) and give a rational perspective.

Comments?

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

work: jeverhart@cayman.vf.mmc.com

home: n2cx@voicenet.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996

From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>

Subject: [5635] VX0s, Litz wire and pipe dreams

Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960313004539.0072417c@public.compusult.nf.ca>

QRP-L Gang,

Joe N2CX sets the example of what a modest QRPer is all about. What Joe failed to tell you all is that Joe is the World Champion crystal bender as proven by his spectacular win at last year's New England QRP Club Crystal Bending Shootout at the ARRL Headquarters - why it's reported that he moved that colour burst frequency on 80 meters all the way up to the Digital TV frequencies.

So let's see if someone can actually refute what Joe has to say - I COULD NEVER bend a crystal that much and I used to do tricks like die and tool tapping a threaded screw into the side of a FT-243 crystal holder to have a "real" variable VX0 circuit..

Cheers 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

>Folks,

>

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>latest 73 magazine. Unfortunately I've deleted the messages , but I want o  
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>careful experimentation and measurement.  
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>Maybe I'll try conversing with the author, and see what the's all about. No  
>flames intended, I'm just trying to put on my engineer's hat (No, not the  
>railroad kind!) and give a rational perspective.  
>  
>Comments?  
>  
>72/73,  
>  
>Joe E., N2CX

Bob Gobrick - VO1DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada
QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP
Internet: rgobrick@nfld.com
bgobrick@nlnet.nf.ca
Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com



From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>  
Subject: [5643] Re: "Four Days in May (c)" QRP Symposium - March 96 UPDATE  
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960313023406.00729298@public.compuser.net>

Folks and QRPers,

You have just got to see what Steve Hideg - our webmeister has down over at the QRP-L Homepage. The writing is on the wall - MY JOB as "Four Days in May (c)" QRP Symposium PR Chairperson is numbered (actually less than 60 days). Steve has done one heck of a job coming up with some new QRP Dayton ditties that you have got to see - tons of photos from last years Dayton Hamfest QRP Hospitality Suite - even have some mug shots of the UK gang just to prove to their spouses that they didn't end up going to Las Vegas..

There are now new information pages for the Pete's QRP Banquet, the Hospitality Suite and of course a big PR splash for the "FDIM(c)" event. Steve even uses the official copyright symbol (darn those Mac users...)

Take a look and Enjoy -

<http://qrp.cc.nd.edu/QRP-L/index.html>

Thanks Steve.

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB (Soon to be replaced (by a computer) PR Chairperson for FDIM(c)).

PS: Steve - Please update the registration information from my March 96 posting so checks are made out to Paulette Quick rather than FDIM - thanks. Also my last posting makes an announcement of our Luncheon Speaker - Dr. Rick Zabrodski VE6GK from Calgary (alias Dr. Dudley Doright from the Canadian Rockies)

At 00:03 3/12/96 -0500, you wrote:

>Bob,

>

>Check out the QRP-L Resource Page.

>

>I've created a Dayton information page that includes a link to a FDIM page

>I made up based on your epistles.

>

>Please let me know if the information is accurate, etc.

>

>Thanks.

>

>--Steve

>

>

>-----

> Steve Hideg Macintosh Consultant/Analyst

>

>Office of Information Technologies Telephone: (219) 631-3926

>University of Notre Dame URL: <http://www.nd.edu/~shideg/>

>

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| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |
| QRPPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |
| Internet:      rgobrick@nfld.com |
|                bgobrick@nlnet.nf.ca |
| Compuserve:   70466.1405@compuserve.com |
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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996

From: NYOUNG@nova.wright.edu

Subject: [5632] Re: Advice needed

Message-ID: <01I2AS910ZLI94T5ZS@nova.wright.edu>

Other advice is right on target. But you must remember two things:

1. At least you spent the bucks on a radio instead of a younger women with short, violet hair and day-glow eye shadow, wearing a plastic microskirt whom you met on the corner one evening after work when you said that you were working late.
2. If you buy her flowers when you don't do anything like this, she'll be deconditioned to thinking that you've wasted more money on something besides the woman mentioned above. And she'll fill the house up with plants, most of which you will have to water and repot from time to time just to keep 'em living long enough for her to forget that she should have crowned you with the microwave -- 'cause no one uses those teflon pans to adjust their husbands anymore -- in the first place.

Beyond that, I suggest walking into the house, putting the damn radio down on the kitchen table and admitting that you just blew a hole in the bank account 'cause you have this terrible compulsion to buy radio stuff that you don't need and that you're really going to stop doing this as long as she'll take you to the

counseling session that you've set up so that she won't be an enabler and you won't both end up as codependents.

Then arrange the sessions and get your priorities in order.  
It's that or this:

Walk into the house, put the radio down on the kitchen table.  
Then pick up the microwave, hold it over your head and ask her to say "when."

73

Nils

WB8IJN +c

Believe me, I've been through this myself. It ain't fun and it always seems to get brought up every year about Christmas time or birthday time or anniversary time. You're gonna pay, dude. For the rest of your cogent life. Once you get senile and end up strapped into a wheelchair in a hallway, everyone will just figure that you had early symptoms that no one noticed.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996

From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>

Subject: [5628] Re: Advice Needed!

Message-ID: <199603132248.PAA22208@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

Dave,

What to tell your wife for spending \$299 on a radio:

1. Raise your right hand and swear you won't buy another radio thingie for the rest of winter.  
(Hint: winter ends next thursday)
  2. Yesterday wasn't called "Super Tuesday" for nothing.
  3. In exchange, you'll fix that section of fence that burned down in 1977.
  4. Buy her one too.
  5. It's a duo-bander, therefore, it's really only \$150 per band.
  6. They normally sell for \$12,800.
  7. When the solar cycle picks up, the cost of these puppies is gonna zoom.
  8. You had no choice ... NorCal doesn't kit these things yet.
  9. Buy her a nice pair of slippers and put a \$300 price tag on them.
  10. When Forbes becomes President, the flat tax savings you'll realize will more than pay for it.
- And if those don't work, then try the final, desperate one ...
11. Honest honey, when he said 299, I thought he meant \$2.99!

When I buy a goodie for my shack, I always buy my wife some flowers

or a house plant (she's a house plant freak). It has become a tradition and a family joke. I send them to her work and she calls me "OK, what did you buy THIS time?" It softens the blow, but at least let's her know I think of her too. Hell, if it weren't for a new keyer or something once in awhile, the woman would never get flowers! Sadly, she knows that. And somehow still tolerates me.

GL OM, you may need it.  
Paul NA5N

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: RHILT0@acxiom.com  
Subject: [5629] Re: Advice Needed!  
Message-ID: <14750860@acxiom.com>

>OK, I'm in trouble, and I need help!

>I just bought a (QRP) FT-530 dual band HT from HRO yesterday  
>(they're blowing them out at \$299) and I need to break it gently  
>to my wife, especially since I just spent all my "radio" money at  
>the Foothills flea market last weekend.

>Any of you know of an approach that results in minimum all round  
>stress/strife?

>Dave Fifield

Try wrapping the instruction manual around a diamond bracelet.....

Bob

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: Kevin Muenzler <muenzlerk@uthscsa.edu>  
Subject: [5630] RE: Advice Needed!  
Message-ID: <01BB10FD.77BD8520@muenzlerk.uthscsa.edu>

Dave Fifield[SMTP:fifield@lan.nsc.com] wrote:

>OK, I'm in trouble, and I need help!

>

>I just bought a (QRP) FT-530 dual band HT from HRO yesterday  
>(they're blowing them out at \$299) and I need to break it gently to

>my wife, especially since I just spent all my "radio" money at the  
>Foothills flea market last weekend.

>

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>stress/strife?

>

> Dave Fifield

> -----

>| LAN Applications Manager | KE6ZBZ |

>| National Semiconductor Corp | QRP-L #92 |

> -----

>

>

Paint the house.

Wash/Wax the car.

Breakfast in bed for a year.

But seriously, DON'T HIDE IT FROM HER!

I recently bought a Yaesu FT-890/AT at an estate sale. The gentleman's wife didn't know what it was. It was brand new in the box with the receipt taped to the top of the box. He had bought it three years ago and never broke the news to his wife. She wanted to dig him up and slap him because he was always doing this sort of thing. I found that the best way to keep my wife happier with radio purchases was to persuade her to get her ticket.

Best of luck

Kevin, WB5RUE

wb5rue@amsat.org

muenzlerk@uthscsa.edu

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996

From: "J. Skalski" <jskalski@acsu.buffalo.edu>

Subject: [5637] Re: Advice Needed!

Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960313195442.9115A-1000000@conciliator.acsu.buffalo.edu>

Wrap it up and give it to HER.

73,

Jim N2GO

The Buffalo QRP CONNECTION

ARCI #9013 QRP-L #381

jskalski@acsu.Buffalo.EDU

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: dsa@apollo.hp.com  
Subject: [5638] Re: Advice Needed!  
Message-ID: <199603140100.UAA82235@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>OK, I'm in trouble, and I need help!

>

>I just bought a (QRP) FT-530 dual band HT from HRO yesterday  
>(they're blowing them out at \$299) and I need to break it gently to  
>my wife, especially since I just spent all my "radio" money at the  
>Foothills flea market last weekend.

You too?!!!! Been there, done that as they say. A little over a month ago I dropped big bucks on an FT-990. Monday I dropped another \$250 on an IC-W21AT. This in addition to an MFJ tuner, coax, ground rod, cable, lightning arrester, ARRL books, ARRL membership, club dues, etc. etc...

Anyway, the XYL is aware of these investments. She has watched me open up the boxes and hook up the gear. She's heard me QSO. She has asked me questions about ham radio, but she HASN'T asked how much I've spent. So therefore, I go with the "don't ask, don't tell" philosophy. I let her know I've made the purchase by showing it to her ("see honey, look at all the pretty lights"). I never ask permission (always easier to ask forgiveness, besides she might say no). The cost of the stuff is just something that hasn't come up in conversation. Maybe because she'll drop \$200 on a pair of Gucci shoes and she doesn't want me to raise an eyebrow as I walk around in my 5 year old shredded Nikes. Guess we both have our vices. Mine happens to be ham radio. The ONLY vice I have (thus explaining some of my neurosis hi hi).

Of course we do have seperate checking/charge/bank accounts and never see the other's paychecks. A big plus when squandering your income covertly.

But some serious advice Dave, anyone holding the purse-strings in a marriage is only looking for control. It is not healthy. It's also not healthy to buy something without telling your spouse (could be fatal in some pathological relationships). Yet to avoid making a purchase of something you truly want because your spouse would not approve will only lead to resentment.

The key as I've found, is communication and compromise. -but DON'T volunteer more info than is requested. Sometimes they just DON'T want to know anyway. Oh, and the above only applies if your XYL isn't your sole source of income. In that case, get a job THEN buy your toys.

Advice Disclaimer: Consider the source.

Good Luck es 73  
de Dale, KB0VCC/QRP-L #91

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: John Shuster <jshuster@olympic.net>  
Subject: [5640] RE: Advice Needed!  
Message-ID: <01BB10FF.7AC5AA20@oly3-116.olympic.net>

My wife Sally and I have this arrangement. We both work and I have =  
figured out the bills to be paid in direct proportion to our paychecks. =  
At the end of the month, we both have some money left. We save it and =  
buy things for ourselves. This way, we can enjoy each other's interests =  
instead of feeling that one is beating the other to the money. I have =  
seen marriages break up over "money", when the real issue was the lack =  
of freedom and resources to be your own person in the relationship. =  
Although she is "mike shy" and probably will never get her license, she =  
is a scientist and is interested in the QRP kits I build. It hasn't =  
happened by chance, we have arranged it to be this way and it works. No =  
anger, no resentment, just true interest in her husband's hobby.

John  
KC7CKP

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From: Dave Fifield[SMTP:fifield@lan.nsc.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 1996 3:30 PM  
Subject: Advice Needed!

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Dave Fifield

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| LAN Applications Manager      | KE6ZBZ      |  
| National Semiconductor Corp   | QRP-L #92   |  
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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: N1QQV@aol.com  
Subject: [5642] Re: Advice Needed!  
Message-ID: <960313211331\_445848174@emout07.mail.aol.com>

Dave,

Leave it in the car 'til she's not around and then smuggle it in. If she notices it, you just say: "This old thing? It's been in the closet for years!"

GL and 73, Ken

PS True Story: Two months ago it was my sad duty to spend an hour in a chapel, surrounded by a group of flying buddies, saying goodbye to an R/C modeler who had been a member of our group. Our departed friend had made some very wise investments, and was never short of money for his hobby, or anything else. About half way through the ceremony the guy sitting next to me whispered sotto voce "How am I gonna tell Bev that I have a \$500 model engine that was delivered to me at work for him?!!" Seems that he had been submarining his hobby purchases by having them sent to someone else! I didn't know whether to laugh or cry. Go figure....

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: Bill Howell <bhowell@mail.utexas.edu>  
Subject: [5639] Re: Antennas and Launching  
Message-ID: <1.5.4b11.16.19960313190340.2527245a@mail.utexas.edu>



>Does anyone have any experience with Antennas West's Quick Launch system?  
>If so, how does it work and how well does it work? I'm looking for  
>something to help me get an antenna up when camping.

////////////////////////////////////

I haven't tried their Quick Launch system. But...they do have some great double-dacron rope..I just ordered abt 800 ft of it so I wouldn't run out for awhile :^)

It's slick enough to slide over tree branches easily. Knots made in this stuff can be untied, even after many moons (I just untied/retied my 10m dipole last night, standing on the garage roof \_in the dark\_). Nice rope. (is 10 open yet?)

What I use for launching is a roll of thin nylon line (5 bux/thousand ft at a recent hamfest), and a Master combination lock.

Everyone has one of these locks (you know...the one you've forgotten the combination to), in a bottom drawer somewhere.

The lock has just the right 'heft' for chunking over trees, up to 30 ft or so. They also have a handy loop at the top, to tie your nylon cord to. I've found that \_cotton\_ string tends to stick/drag when passing over limbs. This is not what you want to happen.

Lay out enough line on the ground to make it over the tree and down the other side.

Try to spread out the line on the ground so that when you launch, the loops of line don't catch on each other and you end up launching a big wad of knots.

Also, don't lay your line out over any twigs, etc. Murphy's Law states that the line WILL pick up the twigs at the moment of launch, increasing the drag and reducing your throw distance.

If this is a temporary installation, just use the twine to support the antenna. If it's to be 'permanent', tie the twine to your 'good' rope (using plastic electrical tape, 'barber-poled' over the knot- this will keep the knot from hanging up on limbs) and pull it through the tree.

<jump to related topic>

For years I have used screen-door springs on one end of my skywires, to keep the swaying trees from stretching them. The springs get rusty after awhile, and I started thinking about all those layers of rust being rubbed together between the spring coils, along with all the RF floating around that area (maybe this matters, maybe

I tried using bungee cord material this time. I'm talkin' about the large stuff here. Found it at Builders Square. 1/2 inch diameter. 50 cents/foot. So I bought three feet, plus a pack of end-hooks for 70 cents. Put it all together in a couple of minutes. Really hefty. This ain't no down-stream bungee cord! I installed it on the aforementioned 10m dipole.

Thanks for the BW.

N5AL0      ORP-L #415

---Then bring us a shrubbery. Nee.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: Jon Liechty <jliechty@indiana.edu>  
Subject: [5634] Re: Bumper stickers  
Message-ID: <Pine.HPP.3.91.960313191454.13755A-100000@ophelia.ucs.indiana.edu>

!Ay, me encanta la lista! Gracias por mandarlo!  
Otra que me gusta es "New World Order = Same Old Shit".  
See ya 'round!  
-Jon

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: Jon Liechty <jliechty@indiana.edu>  
Subject: [5636] Re: Bumper stickers  
Message-ID: <Pine.HPP.3.91.960313195234.13755E-100000@opelia.ucs.indiana.edu>

Oops. Forgot to look at the "To:" line. The below was SUPPOSED to have been sent personally to Nils. THIS is why they don't trust me with important diplomatic information. Sorry.

-Jon

On Wed, 13 Mar 1996, Jon Liechty wrote:

> !Ay, me encanta la lista! Gracias por mandarlo!  
> Otra que me gusta es "New World Order = Same Old Shit".  
> See ya 'round!  
> -Jon  
>  
>  
>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: QLF%[mimi@magic.itg.ti.com](mailto:mimi@magic.itg.ti.com)  
Subject: [5621] re: FLORAL FOAM es STATIC ELECTRICITY  
Message-ID: <9603131810.AA14601@itg.ti.com>

From: Brad Bradfield QLF

Subj: re: FLORAL FOAM es STATIC ELECTRICITY

Remember: all a transistor is is a very low current three-legged fuse.

Brad, WB0CGH

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: Larry East <[LVE1@inel.gov](mailto:LVE1@inel.gov)>  
Subject: [5613] RE: Off frequency  
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960313155249.21ef23da@134.20.32.17>

>Tee Hee Hee...Imagine tuning the whole band!!  
>  
>I have been reading W0RSP's book "The History of QRP in the  
>US"(Great reading!!). In the good old days they talk about  
>tuning the entire band looking for someone giving them a call back.  
>

>Oh to have been an amateur in the 20s and 30s!!

>

20s and 30s heck! It was still common to tune a good part of the band looking for answers to CQs in the 50s and even the 60s when a lot of rigs (particularly Novice rigs) were still "rock bound" (we used AM then too...). You kids are just spoiled!

72, Larry W1HUE/7

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996

From: Clark Savage Turner WA3JPG <turner@bear.ICS.UCI.EDU>

Subject: [5617] Re: Off frequency

Message-ID: <477.826737129@bear.ics.uci.edu>

> >Tee Hee Hee...Imagine tuning the whole band!!

....

> >Oh to have been an amateur in the 20s and 30s!!

> 20s and 30s heck! It was still common to tune a good part of the band  
> looking for answers to CQs in the 50s and even the 60s when a lot of rigs  
> (particularly Novice rigs) were still "rock bound" (we used AM then too...).

> You kids are just spoiled!

Oh my. I just became an amateur in 68, and upgraded in 69. I was still tuning the band in the 70's, often rockbound calling on AM with about 30 watts output (my trusty Knight-Kit T-60 transmitter at the helm). And, it was like magic when tuning the band with my old National receiver to hear a call coming back in some far away portion of the band. It mostly ended for me when I got a Heath HW-101 transceiver - geez, that was a big upgrade. Sidetone, semi-QSK, CW filter, all the modern features! Then, in 1972 I got my Ten Tec Argonaut 505. I even lugged that thing around in a backpack with a big 12 volt lantern battery for multi day hikes around the Delaware Water Gap area of the Appalachian Trail.

I have my law degree and finishing a Ph.D. in computer science. These are hobbies. Amateur radio is serious.

Clark  
WA3JPG

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996

From: johnmb <johnmb@nando.net>

Subject: [5620] Re: parts caddy  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960313125344.23436C@bessel.nando.net>

On Wed, 13 Mar 1996, Frank Guinee wrote:

> I haven't built much stuff but found on my first project (the Cascade) that I didn't have a good method of hanging on to the myriad parts after I sorted them. I have now arrived at an effective and asthetically pleasing solution for project number two: floral foam.

>

> This is the stuff in the base of a flower arrangement and is available in a brick size chunk at any craft store, or, for a higher price, at any florist. I cut it laterally in 1 inch cross sections to have three thin brick size pieces. It is very soft but will easily hold resistors, capacitors, etc., vertically for easy pickins and I can move the entire set around easily.

>

> And, with all the capacitors for the Cascade neatly sorted and stuffed in the floral foam, it is an artistic display that resembles an insect collection!

>

....be aware that semiconductor thingies may not like the static electricity that lurketh in such foams!

/john

wb5oau/4

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: RHILTO@acxiom.com  
Subject: [5615] Re: Recap on QSO's  
Message-ID: <146f7720@acxiom.com>

Brad Mugleston <bmug@gwl.com> posted an interesting note re: making contacts, especially s l o w l y so he can copy everything, and concluded with:

>> de kb0rol qth aurora aurora, co co k

Brad, Brad... if you're gonna cut through the QRM and QRN and QSB and QLF-ops, you're gonna hafta spell your QTH phonetically. Especially the state. Twice.

7.3, ki5ez  
Bob

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: KFGlynn@aol.com  
Subject: [5618] Re: Recap on QSO's  
Message-ID: <960313121419\_245008997@emout06.mail.aol.com>

Hello Brad,

Another thing that I learned early on was to tail-end a QSO. I made many 20 meter DX contacts last summer by listening and following the QSOs. As soon as the QSO was complete I immediately gave the DX station a 2x2 call. I'd especially listen for things like 73, SK, dit dit from the stateside station, QSL via Buro, etc. More times than not they came back to me right away to my call. This of course works with any contact, but I really enjoy DX contacts. If the band was very busy sometimes I'd give a 1x1 call to get my call in there quickly ahead of a pileup.

I also would tune in the nulls between 40M AM broadcast QRM and call CQ if I didn't hear anyone calling CQ (after 2 QRL?). That worked well for me this last year in the evenings.

BTW I made my first DX QRP contact last night. Granted it was Canada, but worked a VE1 call in NS with 750 mW into 40M dipole. He told me solid copy and gave me a 579 report. Lately I've been turning down the power on my TS-520SE. Working up and down the east coast with 4-5 watts.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: ea4cm@ea4rct.clubs.etsit.upm.es  
Subject: [5622] Re: socios EA\_QRP\_CLUB ?  
Message-ID: <10382@ea4rct.clubs.etsit.upm.es>

Hola Javi si te distes de alta en Enero lo normal es que te hubiera llegado un diploma del club con t indicativo, ademas un boletin del mes de Diciembre pues como se suelen hacer m s de la cuenta se suelen enviar a los socios que se dan de alta que aunque no les corresponda, como sobran se envia y se queda muy bien. Respecto al bolet n del mes de marzo, tampoco me ha llegado a m , espero que llegue dentro de muy poco; no obstante si observas que pasado una semana no te ha llegado lo comunicas porque nunca se sabe que puede pasar en el correo.

Saludos de EA4CM Angel socio y colaborador del maravilloso club EA-QRP.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: Dick G0BPS <DICK@kanga.demon.co.uk>  
Subject: [5626] Re: Want Small Straight Key  
Message-ID: <wSLe3KALDMQxEwbY@kanga.demon.co.uk>

In message <960309113243\_241642733@mail06.mail.aol.com>, KFGlynn@aol.com writes

>Hello gang,

>

>I'm looking for a small straight key for portable QRP work. Does anyone have  
>one they'd like to sell? Or pehaps know of a vendor/dealer who has an  
>inventory? I saw the Schurr in Tucker's catalog, but don't want to come near  
>that price at this time.

>

>Tnx

>

>73 Kevin KB2TE0

>

See us at Dayton, we will have a selection of collectable keys, some  
very small and usable.

G-QRP GANG

--

Dick G0BPS / G0R00 206

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Home Page: <http://ukinternet.com/ham/kanga>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Mar 13 22:04:17 1996  
From: Larry East <LVE1@inel.gov>  
Subject: [5614] RE: WM-1 Wattmeter  
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960313155248.25bf80d6@134.20.32.17>

>From a posting of a couple of days ago:

>Have done the alignment two or three times, just to be sure. Hooked  
>in-line with my MFJ-971 tuner/wattmeter which reads 0-6 watts, 0-30  
>watts, and 0-300 watts. Using the Icom 745 turned down for QRP. In the  
>0-6w range for the MFJ and 0-10w range on the WM-1, the agreement  
>between the two meters is not good at all. The WM-1 reports about half  
>of the wattage reported by MFJ, up to 6w. In the 0-30 range, the  
>agreement is better (up to 10w for the WM-1, of course).

>

There probably have been several comments on this, but I'm a bit behind on

my email reading; couldn't help but comment anyway...

I have noted that most Wattmeters that use a simple diode detector are not very accurate below the 5W level -- they typically read low. The WM-1 uses a diode compensation circuit to overcome the nonlinearity of diodes at low currents. If you have carefully calibrated the WM-1 -- and it appears that you have -- I would put much more faith in its readings below 5W than in the MFJ meter. I have checked my WM-1 with a calibrated 'scope, and it is within 10% on all scales (that's about as close as I can read the 'scope), although a bit nonlinear in the center part of its range (OHR says the new batch of meters they are using are much better).

72, Larry, W1HUE/7

PS -- If you intend to use the WM-1 to measure SSB output, checkout my peak reading mod in the January 1995 QRP Quarterly.